

# Week beginning 1st January 2017

## Climbing companions

### Welcome

What was the best thing about Christmas when you were a child? And now?



15 mins 1/1

### Worship

It is still Christmas, as far as the Church of England is concerned. Sing a favourite carol and praise God for the wonderful truth of the Christmas message.



20 mins 1/1

### Word

#### Matthew 5:1-10



1. How does our normal description of the blessed or happy person compare with those whom Jesus considers blessed?
2. How do you understand the beatitudes? Is Jesus describing what his followers are like, or what they should do, or what life in the kingdom is like or something else?
3. What is the connection between first and second part of each verse?
4. Who does it mean to be 'poor in spirit'?
5. Why is it so difficult for us to admit our spiritual poverty?
6. How will those who mourn be comforted?
7. What does it mean to be meek?
8. Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness will be filled. How can we cultivate a healthy spiritual appetite?
9. What does it mean to be pure in heart?
10. How can we be peacemakers?
11. 'With every beatitude the gulf is widened between the disciples and the people.' *Dietrich Bonhoeffer*. How do the beatitudes challenge us to be different?

45 mins 1/1

### Witness

Pray for our outreach as a church this year, particularly the new Start Course, which begins on Sunday.



10 mins 1/1